In the Claims:

1. (Currently amended) A method of [[prevention or]] treatment of a cholesterol-associated tumor comprising administering a therapeutically effective amount of an azetidinone-based cholesterol absorption inhibitor to a patient wherein the patient [[is either at risk of developing a cholesterol-associated tumor or already]] exhibits a cholesterol-associated tumor.

2. (Currently amended) [[A]] The method of [[prevention or]] treatment of a cholesterol-associated tumor according to claim 1 wherein the azetidinone-based cholesterol absorption inhibitor is selected from the group consisting [[essentially]] of ezetimibe, SCH 48461 and SCH 58053.

3. (Currently amended) [[A]] The method of [[prevention or]] treatment of a cholesterol-associated tumor according to claim 2 wherein the azetidinone-based cholesterol absorption inhibitor is ezetimibe or a stereoisomeric mixture thereof, diastereomerically enriched, diastereomerically pure, enantiomerically enriched or enantiomerically pure isomer thereof, or a prodrug of such compound, mixture or isomer thereof, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt of the compound, mixture, isomer or prodrug.

4. (Currently amended) [[A]] The method of [[prevention or]] treatment of a cholesterol-associated tumor according to claim 1 wherein the azetidinone-based cholesterol absorption inhibitor is selected from the group consisting [[essentially]] of ezetimibe, the phenolic glucuronide of ezetimibe, SCH 48461 and SCH 58053.

5. (Currently amended) [[A]] The method of [[prevention or]] treatment of a cholesterol-associated tumor according to claim 1 wherein the cholesterol-associated tumor is selected from the group consisting [[essentially]] of [[(]]benign prostatic hypertrophy, benign breast tumor, benign endometrial tumor, and benign colon tumor[[)]].

6. (Currently amended) [[A]] The method of [[prevention or]] treatment of a cholesterol-associated tumor according to claim 1 wherein the cholesterol-associated tumor is selected from the group consisting [[essentially]] of [[()]malignant prostate tumor, breast cancer tumor, endometrial cancer tumor, and colon cancer tumor[()]].

7. (Currently amended) [[A]] The method of [[prevention or]] treatment of a cholesterol-associated tumor according to claim 5 wherein the azetidinone-based cholesterol absorption inhibitor is ezetimibe and/or at least one pharmacologically active analog thereof.

8. (Currently amended) [[A]] The method of [[prevention or]] treatment of a cholesterol-associated tumor according to claim 6 wherein the azetidinone-based cholesterol absorption inhibitor is ezetimibe and/or at least one pharmacologically active analog thereof.

9. (Currently amended) [[A]] The method of [[prevention or]] treatment of a cholesterol-associated tumor according to claim 7 wherein a therapeutically effective amount is between about 0.1 to about 30 mg/kg of body weight daily.

10. (Currently amended) [[A]] The method of [[prevention or]] treatment of a cholesterol-associated tumor according to claim 8 wherein a therapeutically effective amount is between about 0.1 to about 30mg/kg of body weight daily.

11. (Currently amended) A method of [[prevention or]] treatment of a cholesterol-associated tumor comprising co-administering a therapeutically effective amount of an azetidinone-based cholesterol absorption inhibitor and at least one other anticancer agent to a patient wherein the patient [[is either at risk of developing a cholesterol-associated tumor or already]] exhibits a cholesterol-associated tumor.

12. (Currently amended) [[A]] The method of [[prevention or]] treatment according to claim 11 wherein the azetidinone-based cholesterol absorption inhibitor is ezetimibe and its analogs.

13. (Currently amended) [[A]] The method of [[prevention or]] treatment according to claim 12 wherein at least one other anticancer agent is selected from the group consisting of [[()] a steroidal antiandrogen, a non steroidal antiandrogen, an estrogen, diethylstilbestrol, a conjugated estrogen, a selective estrogen receptor modulator (SERM), a taxane, and a LHRH analog [()]].

14. (Currently amended) [[A]] The method of [[prevention or]] treatment according to claim 13 wherein the non steroidal antiandrogen is selected from the group consisting [[essentially]] of [[()] finasteride (PROSCAR®), flutamide (4'-nitro-3'-trifluorormethyl isobutyranilide), bicalutamide (CASODEX®), and nilutamide [()]].

15. (Currently amended) [[A]] The method of [[prevention or]] treatment according to claim 13 wherein the SERM is selected from the group consisting [[essentially]] of [[()] tamoxifen, raloxifene, droloxifene, and idoxifene [()]].

16. (Currently amended) [[A]] The method of [[prevention or]] treatment according to claim 13 wherein the taxane is selected from the group consisting [[essentially]] of [[()] paclitaxel (TAXOL®), and docetaxel (TAXOTERE®) [()]].

17. (Currently amended) [[A]] The method of [[prevention or]] treatment according to claim 13 wherein the LHRH analog is selected from the group consisting [[essentially]] of [[()] goserelin acetate (ZOLADEX®), and leuprolide acetate (LUPRON®) [()]].

18. (Currently amended) A composition for the [[prevention or]] treatment of a cholesterol-associated tumor comprising a therapeutically effective amount of an azetidinone-based cholesterol absorption inhibitor and at least one other anticancer agent.

19. (Currently amended) [[A]] The composition according to claim 18 wherein the azetidinone-based cholesterol absorption inhibitor is ezetimibe.

20. (Currently amended) [[A]] The composition according to claim 19 wherein at least one other anticancer agent is selected from the group consisting of [[(]] a steroidal antiandrogen, a non steroidal antiandrogen, an estrogen, diethylstilbestrol, a conjugated estrogen, a selective estrogen receptor modulator (SERM), a taxane, and a LHRH analog [(]].

21. (Currently amended) [[A]] The composition according to claim 20 wherein the non-steroidal antiandrogen is selected from the group consisting [[essentially]] of [[(]] finasteride (PROSCAR®), flutamide (4'-nitro-3'-trifluoromethyl isobutyranilide), bicalutamide (CASODEX®), and nilutamide [(]].

22. (Currently amended) [[A]] The composition according to claim 20 wherein the SERM is selected from the group consisting [[essentially]] of [[(]] tamoxifen, raloxifene, droloxifene, and idoxifene [(]].

23. (Currently amended) [[A]] The composition according to claim 20 wherein the taxane is selected from the group consisting [[essentially]] of [[(]] paclitaxel (TAXOL®), and docetaxel (TAXOTERE®) [(]].

24. (Currently amended) [[A]] The composition according to claim 20 wherein the LHRH analog is selected from the group consisting [[essentially]] of [[(]] goserelin acetate (ZOLADEX®), and leuprolide acetate (LUPRON®) [(]].

25. (Currently amended) An article of manufacture comprising a container, instructions, and a composition, wherein the composition comprises a therapeutically effective amount of an [[azetidinone20]] azetidinone-based cholesterol absorption inhibitor, and the instructions are for the administration of the composition for the [[prevention or]] treatment of a cholesterol-associated tumor.

26. (Currently amended) [[An]] The article of manufacture according to claim 25 wherein the azetidinone-based cholesterol absorption inhibitor is ezetimibe and/or at least one pharmacologically active analog thereof.

27. (Currently amended) [[An]] The article of manufacture according to claim 26 wherein the instructions are for the administration of the composition for the [[prevention or]] treatment of a tumor selected from the group consisting of [[(]]prostatic hypertrophy (prostate tumor), breast tumor, endometrial tumor, and colon tumor[[)]].

28. (Currently amended) [[An]] The article of manufacture according to claim 26 wherein the composition further comprises at least one other anticancer agent.

29. (Currently amended) [[An]] The article of manufacture according to claim 28 wherein at least one other anticancer agent is selected from the group consisting of [[(]] a steroidal antiandrogen, a non-steroidal antiandrogen, an estrogen, diethylstilbestrol, a conjugated estrogen, a selective estrogen receptor modulator (SERM), a taxane, and a LHRH analog [[)]].

* * *